

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 9 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

URGENT 5-9-62 9-21 AM CST CJH

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, SAN ANTONIO
HAMPTON MAUZE
INFORMATION CONCERNING

SUBJECT FOUND DEAD THIS MORNING ON OUTSKIRTS OF SAN ANTONIO,
VICTIM OF A SHOTGUN BLAST. THE CORONER HAS INITIALLY RULED SUICIDE.

[REDACTED] ADVISED THIS MORNING MAUZE IS
MILITANT ANTI-COMMUNIST AND SUGGESTS THERE MAY HAVE BEEN FOUL PLAY.

[REDACTED] RETIRED AND ADMITTED MEMBER JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY,
TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED MAUZE WAS ACTIVE IN AMERICAN LEGION AMERICANISM
COMMITTEE, WALKER CAMPAIGN, AND MEMBER OF JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. STATES
HE KNOWS MAUZE PERSONALLY AND KNOWS OF NO REASON FOR SUICIDE AND
SUGGESTS POSSIBLE FOUL PLAY.

NEITHER HAVE ANY SPECIFIC INFORMATION INDICATING FOUL
PLAY OR INCIDENT RESULT OF MAUZE-S ANTI-COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES.

BUREAU ADVISED IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE PUBLICITY.

LOCAL OFFICIALS WILL BE DISCREETLY FOLLOWED FOR ANY INFORMATION
INDICATING OTHER THAN SUICIDE AND ANY BUREAU INTEREST.

SEND ACK PLS.

11-24 AM OK FBI WA KJL

REC-26

SUBV. CONTROL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-18-86 BY 498/...

MR. BELMONT FOR THE DIRECTOR

CC-MR. ROSEN

62 MAY 28 1962

EX-115

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Evans _____
Mr. Malone _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

Pages A3395-A3396. congressman Thornberry, (D) Texas, extended his remarks to include an article written by Mr. Homer Riley entitled "Behind the Byline" which appeared in the Austin Statesman. Mr. Riley pointed out that "Like a lot of others, I am inundated from time to time by reams of so-called anti-Communist literature of the more fervent or Birch type. - - - When such literature is dumped on my doorstep I have a tendency to see red--but not the type of red Mr. Welch would have me see." He went on to state "Granted, too, that there are Communists operating in this country. I recall even seeing a couple in the past 20 years. But a surge of idiocy is not going to reduce their number by so much as one, and Birchers are not going to catch any red handed. I prefer to leave my spy and red catching where it belongs--to the experts like J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI. Their batting average is considerably higher than the McCarthys and the Birchers. And in this case I'll ride with the pros and the percentages."

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: 5/9/62

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

John Birch Society

Original filed in: 66-1731-2170

W

REC-57 62-104401-1705

EX 106

NOT RECORDED
191 MAY 17 1962

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/12/86 BY SP4EAP/KCE

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for Tuesday 5/8/62 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

F B I

Date: 5/16/62

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (62-2759)

RE: HAMPTON MAUZE
INFORMATION CONCERNING

62-104401-1703

Reference is made to San Antonio teletype to the Bureau dated 5/9/62.

Sheriff's Office, San Antonio, Texas, advised SA MORTON P. CHILES on 5/14/62 that a complete and exhaustive investigation of the death of HAMPTON MAUZE revealed death caused by suicide and that there was no indication or evidence of any foul play. [redacted] Medical Officer, after examination of body and evidence ruled suicide. [redacted] further indicated that inquiry revealed emotional instability on the part of MAUZE prior to death. In view of above, no further inquiry being made.

REC-52

62-104401-1708

5 MAY 23 1962

3 - Bureau
1 - San Antonio
MPC:csb
(4)

6-12-86

Spokane

no act. nec.
5-22-62
BFT

Subv. Control
H. H. [signature]

Approved: 62 MAY 28 1962
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Malone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

gpc

EXP. PROC.
 31 MAY 14 1962

A

17C 5-16-67
Aug 5-17-67
CSJ:K

REC-23

62-104401-1708X
 AUG 9,
 16 MAY 14 1962

med

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 6/12/86 BY SP-REUP/RE

CORRESPONDENCE

62-104401-1709
CHANGED TO
62-108147-X

AUG 31 1962

BW Dec

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/12/86 BY SP4Rymc

C

Memorandum to the Director
Re: The Congressional Record

HOUSE - continued

as such local enforcement officer of said Communist directives, in connection with the said National Lawyers Guild, until it was identified, publicly, as a Communist front by J. Edgar Hoover and Attorney General Biddle several years after World War II when such information was vital to the security of this country.

Pages 8103-8184. Congressman Westland, (R) California, submitted excerpts from an affidavit filed in evidence with the California State Senate Factfinding Committee on Un-American Activities by Mr. Thomas A. Wordel of Berkeleyfield, California, Attorney-at-Law and former Member of Congress. The affidavit was submitted as the result of a report dated July 7, 1951, on the John Birch Society prepared by Assistant Attorney General Edward Jewell and submitted to the Governor of California, Edmund G. Brown. The affidavit defends the John Birch Society. This affidavit comments on lists of membership pointing out that "If any politician wants to campaign on this subject of asking American anti-Communist organizations to supply their membership lists, we suggest that no double standard apply. The politicians must not discriminate. They will have to ask every organization in the country to make its membership lists public; and list the organizations to which they belong and have belonged." It is made known that Governor Brown at one time was a member of the National Lawyers Guild. It states "His Excellency, Edmund G. Brown, the present Governor of the sovereign State of California, did not resign his responsibilities

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE:

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/12/86 BY SP48mp/ak8

Original filed in: 66-1731-21

62-104401

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for _____ was reviewed and pertinent items were _____ marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

51 JUN 13 1962
263

RECORDED
JUN 11 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 6/11/62

FROM : *DJA* SAC, JACKSONVILLE (100-511) (C)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

SM - C

John Birch Society

ReBulet to Mrs. [REDACTED] 5/23/62, a copy of which was designated for Jacksonville.

The Bureau is advised that New York, [REDACTED] advised that the name of [REDACTED] was listed as a person receiving "The Worker" as of [REDACTED]

On 5/23/62, Mrs. [REDACTED] telephonically advised SA [REDACTED] that Mrs. [REDACTED] was a friend of hers and had become interested in the activities of the Florida Legislative Investigating Committee as a result of Mrs. [REDACTED] interest and assistance afforded the Committee. Mrs. [REDACTED] further advised that Mrs. [REDACTED] had recently subscribed to "The Worker" for she wanted to read the type of material published in this paper in order that she, Mrs. [REDACTED] might do something to counteract the type of writings published by the communists. Mrs. [REDACTED] said that Mrs. [REDACTED] is now putting out a mimeographed letter captioned "The American Reporter." Mrs. [REDACTED] said that Mrs. [REDACTED] is a prolific letter writer and writes daily letters to the Orlando "Sentinel" newspaper.

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On 5/28/62, records of the [REDACTED] disclosed that [REDACTED] have in file since 1956. Mrs. [REDACTED] is a lifelong resident of [REDACTED] Her husband is employed by the [REDACTED] No derogatory information is contained in the credit files.

No arrest record for [REDACTED] appears in the files of [REDACTED]

Above information furnished to the Bureau in event further correspondence is received from her.

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Jacksonville
EHD-clb
(3)

REG-45

JUN 13 1962

ST-104

54 JUN 21 1962

REV. [REDACTED]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

, 19__

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527☐ Service Unit - Room 6524☐ Forward to File Review☐ Attention ☐☒ Return to ☐

Supervisor

Room

Ext.

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Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)☐ Subversive References Only☐ Nonsubversive References Only☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☒ Restricted to Locality of File☒ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject

Birthdate & Place _____

Address _____

b6

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Localities _____

R# _____ Date _____

Searcher

Initials File

Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

62-104401-1709ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIEDDATE 6/12/86BY SP4 RWP/RL

2-Orig & 1
1-Yellow
1-Liaison
1-Mr. Bartlett

REC-20

62-104401-1716

ST-113

Date: June 12, 1962
To: Chief, U.S. Secret Service
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Subject: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
THREAT AGAINST THE PRESIDENT

This will confirm information furnished to Special Agent of your Service on June 4, 1962, by Special Agent of this Bureau.

The New Orleans Office of the FBI advised that on June 4, 1962, [redacted] Louisiana, advised that about five weeks ago in the doctors' lounge at [redacted] Memorial Hospital he had a conversation with [redacted] who resided at [redacted] [redacted] told [redacted] that he had gotten out of the John Birch Society since they were talking about going to Washington and shooting the President. [redacted] believes that the following persons were present at the time [redacted] made the above statements:

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[redacted]

On June 4, 1962, [redacted] associate, [redacted] advised that while at the home of [redacted] on the night of [redacted] [redacted] stated she heard from a former member of the John Birch Society that they were going to assassinate the President and were talking about hiring an assassin. According to [redacted] the following persons were [redacted] [redacted] made her statement.

[redacted]

The above information was furnished on June 4, 1962, to Special Agent in Charge John Rice of your Service at New Orleans. Both [redacted] requested that their identities be kept confidential; however, they are willing to be interviewed by your Service Agents.

OHB:ban/nph (5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/12/86 BY SP4/CLP/2

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

BY COURIER SVC.
47 JUN 13

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

57 JUN 22 1962

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 4 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Belmont ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Mr. Callahan ✓
Mr. Conrad ✓
Mr. DeLoach ✓
Mr. Evans ✓
Mr. Malone ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Sullivan ✓
Mr. Tavel ✓
Mr. Trotter ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Miss Holmes ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

URGENT 6-4-62

1-46

PM CST

MA

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, NEW ORLEANS /62-0/ 3-P

UNKNOWN SUBJECT, JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, THREAT AGAINST PRESIDENT
OF UNITED STATES.

ON JUNE FOUR, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LA., ADVISED ABOUT FIVE WEEKS AGO

IN DOCTOR-S LOUNGE, [REDACTED] MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

[REDACTED] STATED HE HAD GOTTEN OUT OF JOHN

BIRCH SOCIETY SINCE THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT GOING TO
WASHINGTON AND SHOOTING THE PRESIDENT.

AS [REDACTED] CAN BEST RECALL, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WERE PRESENT WHEN

[REDACTED] MADE ABOVE STATEMENT.

END PAGE ONE

REC-20

J-113

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CC: Sullivan

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 6/12/00 BY SP-10/00

Let to Chief
US 1st Air Force
6-12-62 OHB/ban/ash

UNRECORDED
b6
b7C
FILED IN 105-70072-1

PAGE TWO

NO 62-0

ON JUNE FOUR. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED

WHILE AT HOME OF [REDACTED]

NIGHT OF JUNE ONE, MRS. [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] STATED SHE HEARD

FROM A FORMER MEMBER OF JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY THEY WERE GOING TO
ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT AND WERE TALKING ABOUT HIRING AN ASSASSIN.

[REDACTED] STATED MR. AND MRS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND MR. AND MRS. [REDACTED]

WERE [REDACTED] MADE HER STATEMENT. BOTH [REDACTED]
AND [REDACTED] REQUESTED THEIR IDENTITIES BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL,
HOWEVER, ARE WILLING TO BE INTERVIEWED BY SECRET SERVICE AGENTS.

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE JOHN RICE, SECRET SERVICE NEW
ORLEANS, WAS ADVISED OF INSTANT INFORMATION AT TWELVE TWENTYONE
P. M., JUNE FOUR INSTANT. RICE-S TERRITORY COVERS [REDACTED]
AND THERE ARE NO SECRET SERVICE AGENTS LOCATED IN [REDACTED]

FOR THE BUREAU-S INFORMATION, NEW ORLEANS INDICES
REFLECTS INFORMATION CONCERNING [REDACTED] INTERNAL

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

NO 62-0

SECURITY DASH R, BUFILE ONE ZERO FIVE DASH SEVEN ZERO NINE SEVEN
TWO.

END AND ACK PLS

WA 3-52 PM OK FBI WA RL HOLD PLS

Obs

DISSEMINATION TO:

11:11 AM
Secret Service,
White House Detail
6-4-62

UNITED STATES (

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401)

DATE: 6/20/62

FROM : SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (100-6826) (C)

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

On 6/11/62, [redacted] Oklahoma City Police Department, telephonically advised he had in custody one [redacted] charged with assault and battery, and that this individual may possess information of interest to the FBI concerning security matters.

On 6/11/62, SA JAMES E. GARRIS interviewed [redacted] while in the custody of the Oklahoma City Police Department. [redacted] was advised he was not under arrest by the FBI, that he did not have to furnish the FBI any information and any information he did furnish would be free and voluntary on his part.

He stated he "became interested in fighting Communism in a peaceful way" approximately one year ago and soon thereafter joined the John Birch Society (JBS). He said he attends meetings of the JBS regularly in Oklahoma City. [redacted] volunteered no other information in this regard.

[redacted] commented he is not a member of the Minutemen (MM) group, he has no interest in that group and he has no knowledge of MM operations in Oklahoma or elsewhere.

He related he read in a recent issue of "Human Events" that "plans were in the mill" to oust J. EDGAR HOOVER as Director of the FBI sometime in 1962, and he also heard similar remarks from unrecalled sources. He could furnish no details in this regard.

[redacted] opined that the FBI is infiltrated by Communists. He said he and other sources, whom he refused

- (2) - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - Oklahoma City
 - (1 - 100-6826) (JBS)
 - (1 - 100-6949) (MM)

JEG: [redacted]
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/13/83 BY SP8 BTG/CJ

16 JUN 22 1962

b6
b7C

OC 100-6826

to identify, felt that all Federal agencies, including the FBI, are infiltrated by Communists. He indicated that neither he, nor the above sources, to his knowledge, has any proof that Communists have infiltrated the FBI or any other Federal agency, but they feel that the Communists had attempted to infiltrate Federal agencies and were successful in doing so. He refused to discuss this matter further.

[redacted] said he has no personal knowledge of Communist activities in Oklahoma or elsewhere.

The following description of [redacted] was obtained through interview and observation: , ,

Name: [redacted]
Address: [redacted]
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
(resided Oklahoma City the past 11 years)
Prior Address: [redacted]
Sex: Male
Race: White
Date of Birth: [redacted]
Place of Birth: [redacted] Oklahoma
Height: 5'11"
Weight: 175 pounds
Hair: Brown, wavy
Eyes: Blue
Characteristic: Wears glasses
Occupation: [redacted]
Social Security No.: [redacted]
Education: High school graduate. One year [redacted]
Military Service: U.S. Army, [redacted] honorable discharge; ASN RA [redacted]
Marital Status: Married
Spouse: [redacted] nee [redacted] (spouse presently suing for divorce)
Arrest record: Admits: About 1946, [redacted]
speeding, \$162.15, fine and costs.

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

b6
b7C

OC 100-6826

The only reference to [redacted] in Oklahoma City indices is information reported during the latter part of 1950 by [redacted]

[redacted] Oklahoma, who advised [redacted]

[redacted] wrote him a letter on 9/6/50, in which he described a Russian weapon. This matter was referred to the Kansas City Office by letter dated 11/17/50 for any action deemed appropriate by that office.

b6
b7C

The above is furnished for the Bureau's information. No further action is contemplated by the Oklahoma City Office.

UNITED

ERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401)

DATE: 6/21/62

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-36671)

SUBJECT: ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR.
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

On June 20, 1962, there was received by the Chicago Office from an anonymous donor a flyer distributed by one [redacted]

Illinois, which bears a letterhead of the John Birch Society Inc., Belmont, Massachusetts. It is announced therein that the Illinois Chapter of that Society will present "Our Council Speaks", a critique of the John Birch Society, Saturday, June 30, 1962, at the Flick-Reedy Auditorium, Bensenville, Illinois. Speakers will include R.H. MONTGOMERY, THOMAS J. ANDERSON, STILLWELL J. CONNER, Dr. REVILO P. OLIVER and Dr. S.M. DRASKOVICH, all of whom are listed as members of the Council of the John Birch Society. It is stated that the above function will be the first in a series of educational efforts to reach more people.

[redacted] is identified as the subject of Bureau file 65-62223, who has originated a large volume of correspondence with this office and the Bureau in the past. The above is furnished for the information of the Bureau.

2 - Bureau (RM)
2 - Chicago
(1 - 65-3915)
JWT/djs
(4)

REC-43

6/12/86 SP4RC/mre
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/19/80 BY SP1 GSK/CA

1723

TELETYPE UNIT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 6/12/86 BY SP8CJA/mre

REC-15

EX-115

RE JUL 5 1962

51 JUL 10 1962

62-104401-1724

Mr. Tolson 12
Mr. Belmont 12
Mr. Mohr 12
Mr. Callahan 12
Mr. Conrad 12
Mr. DeLoach 12
Mr. Evans 12
Mr. Malone 12
Mr. Rosen 12
Mr. Sullivan 12
Mr. Tavel 12
Mr. Trotter 12
Tele. Room 12
Miss Holmes 12
Miss Gandy 12

[Handwritten signature]

F B I

Date: 7/20/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL - REGISTERED
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401)

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-59001)(C)

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

REC-41 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

On 7/19/62, [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past and whose identity should be concealed, advised she had received information reflecting that ROBERT WELCH, of the John Birch Society (JBS), was in Los Angeles as of 7/19/62 and that on the same date he had lunched with WESTBROOK PEGLER, prominent newspaper columnist.

She stated she had received information reflecting that WELCH and PEGLER intended to make some sort of "blast" at the "Los Angeles Herald Examiner" in connection with an article the "Examiner" printed concerning JBS on or about 4/1/61 which bore a red banner headline captioned "Birch Society Branded as Anti-U.S." [redacted] stated WELCH was disturbed by the statement in the article which allegedly indicated that WELCH himself was anti-Catholic.

[redacted] was advised that WELCH was attempting to obtain a copy of the newspaper article in question without knowledge of his inquiry getting back to persons of authority at the newspaper.

[redacted] stated she had received a telephone call from a local JBS office asking whether she knew where a copy of the newspaper in question could be located. She stated she was able to locate a copy of the paper among her own clippings, at which time she telephonically advised the JBS office, who in turn placed her in direct contact with Mr. WELCH, who asked her whether she would object to mailing the article to Mr.

- ③ - Bureau (AIRMAIL) (REGISTERED) REC-41
2 - Los Angeles (cc: [redacted])

62-104401-1731

JST:DRU

(5)
cc: Wick
Approved: [signature]

Special Agent in Charge

51 JUL 30 1962

Sent

EX-102

13 JUL 23 1962

M Per

INT/SEC

LA 100-59001

PEGLER, who was staying at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles.

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b7C
b7D

The foregoing is being furnished to the Bureau for information.

FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson _____ ()
 Mr. Belmont _____ ()
 Mr. Mohr _____ ()
 Mr. Callahan _____ ()
 Mr. Conrad _____ ()
 Mr. DeLoach *gm* _____ ()
 Mr. Evans _____ ()
 Mr. Malone _____ ()
 Mr. Rosen _____ ()
 Mr. Sullivan _____ ()
 Mr. Tavel _____ ()
 Mr. Trotter _____ ()
 Miss Holmes _____ ()
 Miss Gandy _____ ()

manell

See Me _____ ()
 Note and Return _____ ()
 Prepare Reply _____ ()
 Send Copy to Attorney General _____ ()
 For Your Recommendation _____ ()
 What are the facts? _____ ()

Remarks:

RECEIVED

JAN 10 1961

ack 7-25-62

Jal

61 JAN 10 1961

61 JAN 10 1961

62-104401-1734, 1735

CHANGED TO

63-8441-XI, X

MAY 24 1963

Bc/MS

C
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-12-86 BY SP4RUP/KR

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Malone _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

TO : Mr. DeLoach *DeLoach*

DATE: 8-2-62

FROM : D. C. Morrell *DeLoach*

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

DeLoach

By letter dated 7-25-62, captioned individual wrote to the Attorney General and set forth four pointed questions. The first requests a copy of Senator Eastland's speech of 5-8-62 entitled "Is the Supreme Court Pro-Communist?" and opinion regarding the speech. The last is: "Are there communists in our State Department? You say no, I say yes. Will you place your job as Attorney General on the above questions?" He designated copies of his letter to several prominent people including the Director and requested their opinions.

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John Birch Society

Bufiles contain no references identifiable with correspondent.

It is felt no purpose would be served in affording Mr. [REDACTED] letter any acknowledgment.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter not be acknowledged.

DeLoach

DeLoach

H

Enclosure

RVA:slc
(2)

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

REC-16

62-117401-1737

112 AUG 6 1962

CORRESPONDENCE

355
3 AUG 13 1962
ENCLOSURE

EX-108

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 6/12/86 BY 1048/pcc

Mr. Tolson_____

Mr. Belmont_____

Mr. Mohr_____

Mr. Callahan_____

Mr. Conrad_____

Mr. DeLoach_____

Mr. Evans_____

Mr. Malone_____

Mr. Rosen_____

Mr. Sullivan_____

Mr. Tavel_____

Mr. Trotter_____

Tele. Room_____

Miss Holmes_____

Miss Gandy_____

W. J. [unclear]

62-104401-1738

CHANGED TO

62-108356-13

DEC 5 1962

DK-UMC

66

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/22/86 BY SP4RUP/2

F B I

Date: 8-10-64

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via **REC-15** Airtel

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

To: SAC, Seattle

From: Director, FBI

RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)
BUDED 8-15-64

Enclosed you will find:

- ☒ Two copies of self-explanatory communication from captioned individual.
- ☐ One copy of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin.
- ☐ One copy of the Uniform Crime Reports bulletin.
- ☐ Other:

Take following action:

- ☐ Make discreet inquiries of established sources to determine reputation of captioned individual and/or organization. Under no circumstances should correspondent become aware of our interest.
- ☐ Have correspondent interviewed to determine whether correspondent has any information of interest to Bureau.
- ☐ Have substance of enclosed communication made available to appropriate local law enforcement officials. Retain copies of this communication in your possession at all times.
- ☐ Acknowledge enclosed communication by mailing enclosed Bureau publication or publications to correspondent to address indicated, following your determination of status in law enforcement. If correspondent is not type of person to whom we want to furnish this material, or does not have legitimate interest in law enforcement matters, correspondent should be contacted and informed that our budgetary limitations restrict its distribution and request cannot be granted. Advise Bureau of action taken, together with recommendation as to whether correspondent's name should be added to our mailing list.
- ☐ Submit results under above caption to reach Bureau no later than
- ☒ Submit results and recommendations as to whether or not Bureau should comply with request, under above caption, to reach Bureau no later than 8-15-64.

☒ Other: For background information see urfile 100-24754.

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Malone _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Enclosure (4)

Follow-up for 8-15-62

JET:jpp (6)

See note next page.

Sent Via MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

M

Per

b6
b7CFBI
RECEIVED
AUG 11 3 40 PM '64

NOTE: In-absence letter sent same date, no yellow or abstract prepared. Bufiles reflect an outgoing to [] on 10-19-61.

By return letter of 10-24-61 he requested 25 copies of Inspector Sullivan's speech, "Communism and Religion," which were sent without cover letter on 10-31-61. Seattle to Director letter dated 1-23-61, Bufile (62-104401), sets out information received 12-22-60 from a private citizen in Bellingham, Washington, that "the person actively promoting the John Birch Society in his city was []" Files of the Seattle Office contained no adverse information identifiable with [] at that time.

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b7C

Mr. Tolson ☒ ~~Mr. Belmont~~
~~Mr. Mohr~~ ☒
Mr. Callahan ☒
Mr. Conrad ☒
Mr. DeLoach ☒
Mr. Evans ☒
Mr. Malone _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

F B I

Date: 8/13/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (100-24754)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)

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ReBuairtel 8/10/62.

[REDACTED] is well known to our Resident Agents at Bellingham, Washington as a man who is well respected in the community. He has no criminal record, and his credit record is entirely satisfactory. He is a member of the Elks Club, but also [REDACTED] John Birch Society.

[REDACTED] is considered to be a violent anti-communist and strong "right winger". On many times he has voiced his admiration of the Bureau to our Resident Agents, but because of his association with the John Birch Society, it is believed that if he is furnished the publications requested, he will advise everyone that he received them from the FBI. I recommend that his letter be acknowledged and he be advised that we have no publications presently available in which he is interested.

③ - Bureau
1 - Seattle
WTW:eg
(4)

REC-15

EX-102

7 AUG 24 1962

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

CRIME RESEARCH

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Belmont.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Callahan.....
Mr. Conrad.....
Mr. DeLoach.....
Mr. Evans.....
Mr. Malone.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Sullivan.....
Mr. Tavel.....
Mr. Trotter.....
Tele. Room.....
Miss Holmes.....
Miss Gandy.....

DeLoach

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 8/27/62

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-new)

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Movement to Impeach EARL WARREN,
Belmont 78, Mass.

Enclosed to the Bureau are two copies, and to Boston one copy, of clipping from the 8/23/62 issue of the "Alabama Journal," daily newspaper published at Montgomery, Ala., page 1E. The clippings are self-explanatory, and no additional information concerning these matters have been received by Mobile to date.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 1) (RM) (AM)
1 - Boston (Enc. 1) (RM) (AM)
2 - Mobile
WED-egp
(5)

6/12/86

Spencer

REC-9

1745

The Deputy Attorney General

August 29, 1962

Director, FBI

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Kleinkauf

Reference is made to your telephonic request of Assistant Director Courtney A. Evans of this Bureau on August 27, 1962, for background information concerning captioned Society.

There is enclosed a typed copy of a memorandum dated April 5, 1961, which was furnished the Attorney General by cover communication of the same date and caption.

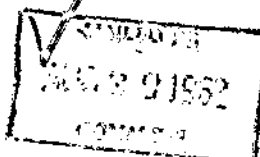
In addition to the data set forth in the enclosed memorandum it is noted that on December 8, 1961, Assistant Attorney General J. Walter Yeagley, Internal Security Division, directed a letter to Welch referring to a statement made by Welch at a rally in Austin, Texas, on November 20, 1961, that "A comparatively few thousand Communists, concentrated in key departments" of the Government have taken the United States "steadily down the road to Communism by steps supposedly designed and presented to the ... as ways of fighting Communism." Assistant Attorney General Yeagley requested Welch to turn over to this Bureau the facts in his possession and the sources thereof which might establish that certain Government employees are members of the Communist Party. Welch has not communicated with this Bureau to supply the information requested by Assistant Attorney General Yeagley's letter. (62-104401-1597, and 1598)

With reference to the estimated membership figures of the Society as set forth in the enclosed memorandum, it is noted that, according to a "Washington Capital News Service" release dated August 23, 1962, a representative of the Society in Los Angeles stated on August 23, 1962, that the Society's national membership had more than doubled in the past year. In a statement issued by the above representative it was reported that

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Holmes _____
Gandy _____

62-104401

JHK:mar-



17 AUG 31 1962

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

10/12/86

Spencer

The Deputy Attorney General

it was interesting to note that the Society has enjoyed particularly heavy membership increases with "each national setback such as the Cuban situation, Katanga, Laos, the steel mandate, the stock market confusion and when the Society has been publicly attacked." According to the above release, a spokesman at the national headquarters of the Society declined to comment on the reported increase in membership or to state the number of members which the Society now has. (62-104401-A)

Enclosure

TRUE COPY

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Kleinkauf

April 5, 1961

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THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

The following information is set forth concerning the John Birch Society (JBS) and its founder Robert H. W. Welch, Jr.

Background Concerning the Society

The Society was organized in Indianapolis, Indiana, in December, 1958, by Robert H. W. Welch, Jr., a wealthy candy manufacturer of Belmont, Massachusetts, to further Welch's anticommunist campaign. It was incorporated on December 23, 1958, as a nonprofit business organization under the laws of the State of Massachusetts and was assigned Charter Number 624-300. The officers were listed as Robert Welch, President and Treasurer, and [redacted]

[redacted] The Directors were listed as [redacted] Robert Welch and [redacted] The Incorporators were listed as Robert Welch; [redacted] Robert Welch); [redacted]

[redacted] also known as Mrs. [redacted] formerly Mrs. [redacted]

All of the aforementioned are residents of the Boston, Massachusetts, area. The aims and purposes of the organization were listed as to promote civic interest in national and international affairs by an educational program and the collection and dissemination of literature for educational purposes. Welch has characterized the long-range objective of this Society as "less government, more responsibility and a better world."

According to recent newspaper accounts, the Society at the beginning of 1961 had chapters in approximately 35 states and it has been estimated that the Society might have 100,000 members at the end of 1961. The most pronounced activity on the part of Welch and the Society in his anti-communist campaign has been charges of communists being in high Government positions, including former President Dwight D. Eisenhower. The most recent major activity in this regard has been the calling for the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren of the United States Supreme Court. A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past has

62-104401
JHK:mar (7)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE 4

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TRUE COPY

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

advised that [] of Dallas, Texas, who has been identified in the past as being a former member of the U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, recently stated he was a member of the JBS and praised the work of the Society. [] stated the Society, without mentioning integration, would only be fighting communism but added that actually communism is the "root of it all" indicating, according to the source, that [] meant fighting communism is also fighting integration. The source advised that [] stated the main work of the Society at the present time is writing letters to Congressmen and other prominent officials, never using the Society's name, and in getting windshield and bumper stickers on as many cars as possible reading "Impeach Earl Warren."

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By memorandum from Assistant Attorney General J. Walter Yeagley dated August 30, 1960, Yeagley, in referring to the Society, advised that the Department's records contained no Bureau reports on either the Society or Welch and requested this Bureau to conduct an investigation of the Society pursuant to Executive Order 10450. By memorandum dated September 8, 1960, he was advised that no information had been received by this Bureau indicating any subversive elements in the Society and that in view of this, together with the background information concerning the Society and Welch which had previously been furnished the then Attorney General by memoranda dated March 6 and September 11 and 16, 1959, all captioned "Robert H. W. Welch, Jr.," no investigation of the Society would be conducted unless a subsequent request was received from the Department. To date no subsequent request has been received from the Department for an investigation of the Society or Welch.

The Present Controversy

The JBS is probably one of the most controversial organizations in the country today. This controversy stems mainly from the allegations made by Welch and the Society alluding to President Eisenhower being procommunist; the allegations that there are communists in other high Government positions; and calling for the impeachment of Chief Justice

TRUE COPY

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Warren. This controversy has led to many attacks on Welch and the Society through the newspapers and in some congressional circles, while at the same time other newspapers and congressional circles have defended Welch and the Society. However, to date this controversy has been confined, at least in congressional circles, to the issue of Welch and the Society and not to the issue of Chief Justice Warren's impeachment.

This controversy slowly gathered momentum until it appears to have reached its peak within the past week when some Congressmen and Senators denounced Welch and the Society while others backed Welch and the Society. According to newspaper accounts, both the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee (SISS) and the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) have been requested to hold hearings concerning the Society. According to such accounts, Senator Thomas J. Dodd, Vice Chairman of SISS, has denounced the Society and Welch's attack on President Eisenhower and on March 31, 1961, Dodd stated he would bring up the possibility of investigating the Society at the Subcommittee's next meeting. Also according to newspaper accounts, Congressman Francis Walter, Chairman of the HCUA, has stated that the HCUA has received many letters complaining about the Society but none contained material information indicating the HCUA could or should launch an investigation. Walter has further stated that it is not the function of the HCUA to serve as a sounding board either for an organization against individuals or for individuals against an organization. In addition, Senator John L. McClellan, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, has been quoted in the press as stating on March 31, 1961, that his Committee has no plans to investigate the Society because his Committee has no jurisdiction to do so.

In addition to this controversy splitting congressional circles into those attacking Welch and the Society and those backing Welch and the Society, the controversy has split congressional circles on the issue of whether a congressional hearing or hearings should be conducted of Welch and the Society. Some congressional members are demanding an investigation while others are claiming there is no basis or authority for such an investigation.

TRUE COPY

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Background Concerning Welch

The files of this Bureau disclose that Welch resides at 43 Fletcher Road, Belmont, Massachusetts; has an office at 810 Main Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he is an officer and director of the James O. Welch Company, a candy company; and has an office at 385 Concord Avenue, Belmont, Massachusetts, from which literature of the Society is mailed and distributed. In February, 1959, this Bureau received information indicating that Welch had authored a book entitled "The Politician," which book Welch did not have published but had a limited number of copies printed which he sent to friends and individuals who he believed would be interested in its contents. A review of this book disclosed that it was mainly a vicious attack on the political life and beliefs of President Eisenhower. In this book Welch by innuendo alluded to former President Eisenhower as being procommunist. Photostats of the pertinent portion of "The Politician," as well as background information concerning Welch and the Society, were disseminated to the then Attorney General by memoranda dated March 6, 1959, September 11, 1959, and September 16, 1959, all captioned "Robert H. W. Welch, Jr."

Newspaper accounts have quoted Welch as stating that he is the absolute boss of the Society and as saying the Society must be run by a "hard-boiled, dictatorial and dynamic boss."

A description of the tactics employed by Welch in carrying on the activities of the Society is seen in the statement of Spruille Braden, the former United States Ambassador and a member of the Society's council, as quoted in an article on the Society which appeared on page six of the March 30, 1961, issue of the "New York Journal-American," a daily New York City newspaper. In this article Braden stated he did not agree with Welch's charge against President Eisenhower; that Welch may exaggerate sometimes; but "When you're in a barroom brawl, no holds are barred. You don't fight by the Marquis of Queensberry rules."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Original to Deputy Attorney General Katzenbach by cover memorandum dated 8/29/62, same caption, JHK:mar.

TRUE COPY

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 8/31/62

FROM : SAC, BUFFALO (100-17508) (C)

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
IS - MISCELLANEOUS

Re SAC letters 59-13 (F) and 61-14 (D).

The aforementioned SAC letter requested that the Bureau be advised of the formation of a branch of the John Birch Society in a field division and instructed that no active investigation of this group be conducted.

[redacted] advised this office on 3/12/62, that he had been invited to attend a meeting of a group early in March 1962 in Buffalo, New York which he believed was a branch of the John Birch Society. He said he would attempt to be invited to further meetings of this group to learn more about its nature.

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[redacted] subsequently reported on 5/21/62, that he had attended several meetings of this club and learned that it is known as the "The Conservative Club" and is actually a local branch of the John Birch Society. It meets monthly on Friday nights in a parlor at the Hotel Buffalo, Buffalo, New York. He reported that the following persons are prominent officials of this club:

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Buffalo
CES; jrz
(3)

REG-45

56 SEP 11 1962

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[] further advised that the meetings are attended by 9 to 12 persons. According to its chairman, the club was recently formed and its program basically consists of discussions emphasizing that its members generally are opposed to the foreign policy of the EISENHOWER and KENNEDY Administrations and favor a repeal of the Income Tax. It was openly admitted that this group obtains its literature from the John Birch Society. On one occasion, [] obtained an application blank for John Birch Society membership. During the meeting, various persons and groups were singled out for attack because they were allegedly "soft" toward the Communist menace. Among these were EDWARD R. MURROW, DREW PEARSON, Senator JACOB JAVITS, the United Nations, the American Intellectual Community, the Government of Canada (for sending wheat to Red China) and others. b6 b7C

[] advised this office that he would try to obtain invitations to subsequent meetings of the John Birch Society, but he had expressed some lack of sympathy with the views of members of this club during open discussions after the meeting and he felt that he had become persona non grata with them.

On 8/20/62, Mr. [] stated that he had not been invited to any subsequent meetings of the John Birch Society.

The files of this office reflect no pertinent data concerning the above listed John Birch Society members. Informants and sources have reported no interest on the part of subversive groups in the Buffalo area in this branch of the John Birch Society.

No active investigation has been conducted on the John Birch Society by the Buffalo Office and this file is being placed in a "Closed" status.

UNITED STATES GOV

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 9-18-62

FROM : D. C. Morrell *DCM*SUBJECT:

Tolson _____
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 Trotter _____
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 Holmes _____
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Captioned individual sent a telegram September 17th stating that events relating to Cuba, Berlin and Laos warrant an investigation of the State Department. He wants to know if the President is a communist pawn and betraying us and states the President's refusal to recognize the Monroe Doctrine is incompatible with freedom. He feels the President should be investigated for treason and impeached.

Bufiles indicate correspondent wrote in February, 1962, asking about a group of organizations and was advised by letter from the Director dated 2-26-62 that the FBI did not make evaluations. Correspondent's letter indicated he is a member of the John Birch Society, the Conservative Society of America and Young Americans for Freedom.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) In view of his background and his bitter attack on the President, correspondent's letter should not be acknowledged.

(2) That attached form referral be forwarded to Secret Service for their information in view of the derogatory statements by correspondent concerning the President.

JH:rap *rap*

(2)

Enclosure

118
 53 SEP 26 1962

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 10-12-86 BY 4804/RL

9/19 62-10440-1757
 CORRESPONDENCE
 TO SEP 21 1962
STH

F B I

Date: 9/18/62

PLAIN TEXT

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (PERSONAL ATTENTION)

FROM: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY (80-0)

RE: EZRA TAFT BENSON
INFORMATION CONCERNINGJOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INTERNAL SECURITYALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/12/86 BY SP4EUP/mre

On 9/18/62 I received a call from the Honorable EZRA TAFT BENSON, former Secretary of Agriculture in the Eisenhower administration, who is one of the Council of Twelve, the governing body of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon). Mr. BENSON requested an appointment with me to discuss the following matter:

He is concerned about Communism and what he terms Socialism in the United States and feels that the American people are not fully aware of its dangers. He feels that the Director of the FBI for many years has been warning the public about the menace of Communism and he believes that the Director is the foremost authority on this menace today.

Mr. BENSON states he has conducted considerable research concerning the John Birch Society and has found nothing actually wrong with its activities and purposes. He mentioned that ROBERT H. WELCH, President of the Society, had made some "foolish" remarks in some letters in the past concerning President EISENHOWER, Dr. MILTON EISENHOWER and one or two other Government officials, but that to a large extent these statements by WELCH had been misconstrued in that WELCH actually meant that President EISENHOWER had been "used" by others in formulating policies that were not severe enough against Communism.

NOT RECORDED

133 SEP 27 1962

3 - Bureau (AM) (REGISTERED)

2 - Salt Lake City

(1 - 80-0)

(1 - 100-9556)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

SEP 27 1962

ORIGINAL FILED IN 77-39

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

SU 80-0

Mr. BENSON stated he knew many leading citizens who were members of the Birch Society and regarded them as patriotic and great Americans. He stated he is aware of the controversies concerning this society, but that he feels most people do not actually know the true aims of the Society in combating Communism and Socialism. He mentioned that even the Deseret News and Telegram (owned by the LDS Church) had published an editorial criticizing the John Birch Society and that he, BENSON, honestly felt the newspaper did not fully understand the purpose of the Society.

BENSON has reached the conclusion the Society is doing a lot of good in combating Communism and feels that it is patriotic in its motives. He related in confidence that [redacted] has been approached by the Birch Society to be their representative in Utah and surrounding states; that the Society has no "coordinator" in Utah and that activities are handled by the coordinator at Denver. [redacted] has been offered the position of "coordinator" in western states, but has not yet discussed his decision with [redacted]. Mr. BENSON states he knows that [redacted] will consult with him soon concerning his opinion about becoming affiliated with the Birch Society. BENSON stated he realized the FBI does not sanction or endorse any group, but he wanted to know off-the-record how the FBI feels about the Birch Society and whether or not it has been investigated and any conclusions reached.

I informed Mr. BENSON that of course we were purely a fact-finding agency and that he was correct in his comment that the FBI does not have the authority to comment or evaluate the character or integrity of any person or organization; that the FBI is interested only in subversive elements, particularly those that might attempt to infiltrate or take over some organization purely for subversive purposes. I informed him off-the-record in

- 2 -

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

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Date:

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(Type in plain text or code)b6
b7CVia _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

SU 80-0

response to his direct question that to my knowledge the FBI has not investigated the John Birch Society as such in this area, but that of course it would have to be his own decision concerning any affiliation with the Society or any other group. Mr. BENSON stated he realized this but that he appreciated my conferring with him at his request.

It is to be noted that [] is a young man approximately 30 to 32 years of age who was a candidate for the [] and was defeated in the primary last week. [] makes a large number of speeches. I have not heard him but understand that he is a capable speaker and strongly opposes Communism and Socialism in his remarks. The [] is highly regarded in church circles in this area, and [] is one of the highest ranking LDS Church officials. Mr. BENSON had just received from the Publisher a copy of the Director's new book, "A Study of Communism," which he had on his desk and which probably prompted his contacting me about the above matter.

Mr. BENSON mentioned that he would be on a trip in the eastern part of the United States within the next few days, and that he might personally contact the Director to confer with him about the menace of Communism and the role of the Birch Society.

The above is furnished to the Director since he might be contacted in the next few days by Mr. BENSON, who is a strong admirer of the Director's.

- 3 -

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

Mr. Tolson_____

Mr. Belmont_____

Mr. Mohr_____

Mr. Casper_____

Mr. Callahan_____

Mr. Conrad_____

Mr. DeLoach_____

Mr. Evans_____

Mr. Malone_____

Mr. Rosen_____

Mr. Sullivan_____

Mr. Tavel_____

Mr. Trotter_____

Tele. Room_____

Miss Holmes_____

Miss Gandy_____